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# Newport Mercury.

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NEWPORT, R. I., SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1858.

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In its various branches, executed  
with dispatch.  
F. A. PRATT, WM. MESSER.

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## Children's Corner.

**SALLIE M.**  
I knew a lass, but quite too long  
Was her whole name to weave in song,  
But lest a change she should condemn,  
We'll only call her Sarah M.  
Now from her youth this dandelion's mind  
Was most industriously inclined;  
No little girl could so well hem,  
Or stitch, or mend, like Sarah M.  
Her father had not wealth to spare,  
And many children claimed his care,  
No little Sarah early learned  
That her own living must be earned.  
Yet no complaining Sallie made,  
That she must work while others played,  
But set about with right good will,  
The task her fingers should fulfill.  
Though aching head and weary sight,  
Were sometimes hers, her heart was light,  
And equal was her well-earned wage,  
For clothes to wear, and even more.  
Thus, while from day to day she drew,  
Her ready needle through and through,  
She gained far more than worldly poise,  
She learned to commune with herself.  
And this communion, deep and still,  
Soon led her heart to know its ill,  
And ask her Maker to impart,  
For Jesus' sake, a holy heart.  
Now had she spent in early days,  
Her time in idleness and plays,  
At work repining, sought her joys  
With careless girls and idle boys—  
Her father had never known  
The independence now her own;  
Perhaps those wasted hours had even  
Dispelled the thoughts which turned to heav-  
en.  
But care and industry are found,  
With heaven and earth's best blessing crown'd,  
And those who truly value them,  
Should early do like Sarah M. A. B.

**PAPA'S REQUEST.**  
Write very often, children,  
Write very soon,  
Your letters will be dearer  
Than loveliest flowers in June;  
For papa will be absent,  
Throughout the long, long year,  
Write to him very often  
What he will wish to hear.  
That Fred, and sister Bessie  
Are learning with their might,  
And little Nell and Jessie  
All doing what is right.  
Dear children, help each other,  
At morning, noon and night,  
And then your happy Mother  
Will find it sweet to write.  
Write Papa very often,  
Write in the early morn,  
Or write him just at twilight  
When all the day is gone,  
Draw out the pretty tables,  
Mamma will bring a light,  
And help the older children  
To gather round and write.  
Write of the loving kindness,  
Of that dear friend above,  
To whom, in Papa's absence,  
He would lend your hearts in love.  
Think of him in the morning,  
And think of him at night,  
And of his acts of kindness—  
Do not forget to write.  
Write, and often, dear ones,  
Write Papa very soon,  
Your letters will be dearer  
Than loveliest flowers in June.  
If while Papa is absent,  
You'll fill him with delight,  
Think of him very often,  
And don't forget to write. T. L.

**THE SPANISH DOLL.**  
The daily meal of the Spaniards, taken at eleven o'clock, is called *comer*, and pronounced *comay*. Hence the origin of our English word *lunch*.

**WHAT PART OF LONDON IS IN FRANCE?** The letter N.

## The Farm and Garden.

**Not too late to Plant Tomatoes.**—Tomatoes seldom come amiss. Raw or cooked, in the ripening season they furnish a good dish upon the table, daily, for weeks in succession. The surplus crop, saved so easily for fresh fruit in winter, in cans, jars or bottles—or, as preserves, in tins and catsups—are doubly welcome in winter, when "salt junk" is the too prevailing diet of the farmer. We speak of these things now, to remind our readers that it is not too late to set out tomato plants for a full late crop. If new plants are not to be got, a part of those set too thickly may be safely removed to a new place, by wetting the earth around them and taking up a large ball of it with the roots. There are vacant spots in the garden or fields, or where early peas and cabbages are being harvested, which may be used for tomatoes or turnips instead of allowing the ground to lie idle for the remainder of the season. Among early potatoes soon to be dug, plant tomatoes, and if, perchance, you have ten or a dozen bushels more than are wanted for cooking and preserving in the various ways named, sell them in the hog mess, or give them to milk cows.

**Weeds in Gardens.**—The only way to keep weeds in subjection is to treat them with "eternal vigilance." There is no royal road to a neat garden. On walking through a neighbor's grounds, noted for their good order and neatness, we asked him the secret of his success in exterminating weeds. He replied that he had only one leading rule on the subject, and that was "never to allow a weed to go to seed." If every person owning a garden will devote his leisure moments daily to the destruction of weeds, he will find it a comparatively easy matter to keep them down. And this systematic, daily keeping will not only keep his garden neat, but will keep the soil in the best possible condition for the growth of his plants.

"Would you sow a crop,  
Then in every chop,  
Five grains should you drop.  
The reasons are thus given:  
One for the out-corn,  
One for the crop,  
One for the bird,  
And two to grow."

## Poetry.

**THE POWER OF SONG.**  
BY ANDREW BOYD.  
"And as thy light life song, they caught  
The beautiful air;  
That, as I sang, I almost thought  
The spirit of thy song  
Had left, while meeting in the air,  
Its sweet expression joined there."  
Dear lady sing that song again,  
It makes me think of happier days,  
And thrills me with its pleasing strain,  
Oh! lady sing, my heart will praise.  
Repeat that blessed song once more,  
That sweetly lingers round my heart,  
And waits me back to days of yore,  
Dear lady sing, for soon we part.  
Thy witching voice I feel its spell,  
My soul is rapt with bliss divine,  
Each plaintive strain doth sweetly tell,  
Song, sister, is to beauty's shrine.  
Like gentle buds that come in spring,  
To fill the air with fragrance,  
Our hopes too oft like them soon fade,  
And leave the heart in sadness.  
Like birds when seeking on the wing,  
The absent one with mute sad strain;  
So when no more I hear thee sing,  
My life in silence will remain.  
Like one I knew in days long past,  
Whose voice was music like the spheres;  
But metamorphosed me thou hast,  
Noble-like, I'm left in tears.  
From the N. Y. Tribune.

**THE WHISTLE.**  
BY ROBERT STORY.  
"You have heard," said a youth to his sweetheart  
Who stood,  
While he sat on a corn sheaf, at daylight's de-  
cline,  
"You have heard of the Danish boy's whistle of  
wood—  
I wish that the Danish boy's whistle were mine!"  
"And what would you do with it?" "Tell me," she  
said,  
While an arch smile played over her beautiful  
face,  
"I would blow it," he answered, "and then my  
fair maid  
Would fly to my side, and would here take her  
place."  
Is that all you wish it for? That may be yours  
Without any magic, the fair maiden cried:  
"A favor so slight our good nature secures."  
And she playfully seated herself by his side.  
"I would blow it again," said the youth, "and the  
charm  
Would work so that not even modesty's check  
Would be able to keep from my neck your fine  
arm!"  
She smiled and she laid her fine arm round his  
neck.  
"Yet once more I would blow," and the music  
divine  
Would bring me, the third time, an exquisite  
bliss—  
You would lay your fair cheek to this brown one  
of mine,  
And your lips stealing past it, would give me a  
kiss."  
The maiden laughed out in her innocent glee—  
"What a fool of yourself with the whistle you'd  
make!  
To sit there and whistle for—what you might  
take!"

## Domestic Hints.

**Keeping Furs in Summer.**—About the first of April, or on the approach of warm weather, lightly whip, comb and brush your furs till they are perfectly free from dust, sprinkle them with a light spirit of any kind, and wrap them in clean linen. Put them in a tight box or drawer, and keep from the air as much as possible. In this situation they may remain ten or fifteen days; when they ought to be examined, and the whipping, combing and brushing repeated.  
The insects most destructive to furs, are first, the black bug which infests smoked meats, &c. It appears and deposits eggs early in the spring. This kind of moth does not eat the fur, but preys altogether on the skin. Next, the small ash colored miller, which produces the moth that destroys all kinds of woolen stuffs, and may be seen hovering about the candle on a summer evening. This kind particularly preys upon and destroys the furs, and ought to be most guarded against, also the mite, which are very numerous. They appear like dust, and are scarcely perceptible to the naked eye. They subsist upon and destroy the fibrous membrane which attaches the fur to the skin. Hence the practice of sunning and airing furs is highly prejudicial, for as insects fly about in the air, it not only affords them an opportunity of getting in and breeding, but the warmth of the sun nourishes and supports them, and at the same time spoils the color and destroys the life and beauty of the fur.  
**Cure for Felons.**—Boil up in any iron vessel of sufficient capacity (say four or six quarts) enough yellow dock root to make a strong liquor, when sufficiently boiled, and while the liquor is as hot as can be borne by the hand, cover the kettle with a flannel cloth to keep in the heat and steam, and hold the hand or finger affected under the cloth and in the steam, and in five minutes the pain will cease. If it should return for a time, heat up the same liquor and do as before. In a cure performed in this way, the joints of the fingers will always be preserved.

## Selected Tale.

**MY FIRST LESSON.**  
ADDY PUNDERSON—yes, that was the name of my first schoolmistress. She was one of the sturdiest, nicest, and most thoroughly prim old maids that ever took care of other people's children. She taught in a little red school-house, in "Shrub Oak," about half a mile at the back of Fall's Hill. I like to be particular in the geography, though I had never opened an atlas in my life when Miss Punderston received me into her alphabet class.  
I see her now, sitting so very upright in her high-backed chair—solemnly opening the blue paper covers of her primers, and calling me by name. I see the sharp pointed scissors lifted from the chain at her side. I hear the rap, rap of her thimble against the leather covers of that new spelling book; yes I feel myself dropping that bashful little curtsy and blushing under those solemn gray eyes as she points down the long row of Roman capitals and tells me to read. I remember it all; she had on a brown cotton dress; her hair was parted plainly, and done up in a French twist behind; there was a good deal of gray in that black hair, and around her prim mouth any quantity of fine wrinkles; but her voice was low and sweet; she was stiff, but not cross, and the little girls loved her in a degree, though she did give them long stretches of hemming and over-seams to sew.  
My first schoolmistress came from some neighboring town. She was neither Episcopalian nor Presbyterian; but wore the nicest little Methodist bonnet, made of silver-gray satin, without a bow or bit of lace—a Quaker bonnet cut short. Then she had a dainty silk shawl, tinted like a dove's wing, and always carried her handkerchief folded when she went to prayer meeting.  
The school-house stood upon the bank of a small stream which turned a mill just above; it was so overshadowed by young hemlocks that you could only hear the singing of the waters as they stole by the windows. Some forty feet of meadow lay between the windows and the bank, and a noble pear-tree, full of golden fruit, flung its shadow over the school-house, as we got our lessons. Those great bell pears were cruelly tantalizing as they grew and ripened amid the green leaves! but when they came rushing down from the boughs and fell in the grass directly under us, so plump and mellow, it was really too much for human nature.  
But Miss Punderston was strict; she read the golden rule every day, and kneeling at her high-backed chair, prayed diligently night and morning while we stood mutely around. Indeed her control was so perfect that we hardly ventured to look at the pears when they fell; the idea of touching them never entered our heads.  
But one thing troubled us very much; just as the fruit grew ripe, Miss Punderston began to take her dinner basket, and cross into the meadows at the back of the school-house, where she would disappear down the hemlock bank, and stay sometimes during the entire hour of noon.  
One day I was startled at my lesson by a splendid pear that came rushing from the top-most boughs of the tree, and rolled down towards the mill-stream. Dan Haines, who was sitting on the second class bench close by me, whispered from behind his spelling-book that the "mistress would be after that pear about noon time."  
Mary Bell a little girl in my class, looked suddenly up and nodded her head. We had found it all out; that was why the mistress crossed the bank every noon—She was fond of pears, and wanted them all to herself—greedy old thing! We began to feel very angry and ill-used; not one of us would have thought it. What right had she to the pears? They did not belong to her more than to us. In fact Mary Bell's father, who owned the mill, and lived in the great house with pointed gables, just in sight was the only person who had a claim on that tree or its fruit.  
When the recess came, we were upon the watch. Just as usual the mistress took her dinner basket, and getting over the fence, went towards the hemlock bank. Once she stopped, as if to tie her shoe.  
"See, see," whispered Dan, who was on his knees peeping through the rail fence. "She's making believe to tie her shoe, but she's only picking up a pear! Let's jump over and see the mean old thing eat it!" Dan climbed the fence as he spoke, and we followed, a little frightened, but resolute to find out the truth.  
Dan went before, treading very softly and looking everywhere in the grass. Once he stopped, made a dart at a tuft of clover, and up again. I caught a glimpse of something yellow in the hand he was pushing with considerable hurry and trouble into his pocket, that swelled out enormously after. But Dan looked straight forward into the hemlocks and began to whistle, which frightened us half out of our wits, and we threatened to run back again unless he stopped.  
Dan grew cross at this, and went back in high dudgeon, trying to cover his pocket

## Dr. Franklin Abetting an Elopement.

At a recent meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, the talented and efficient Corresponding Secretary, Horatio G. Jones, Esq., read a letter written by Dr. Joseph K. Swift, of Easton, Pa., relating a curious affair in the life of Boston's noble son, Benjamin Franklin:—  
The celebrated painter, Benjamin West, before he became known to fame, fell in love with Miss Elizabeth Shewell. West was poor, the Shewell's were rich. Stephen Shewell, the proud brother of Elizabeth, desired her to marry another suitor, which she refused to do. West was forbidden the house, but Elizabeth continued to meet him, and they were engaged to be married.  
The obstinate brother kept his sister under lock and key, till West sailed for Europe to prosecute his studies. Miss Shewell, however, had promised to join him in any part of Europe, and marry him as soon as Mr. W. informed her of his ability to maintain her.  
The patronage which West met in London, soon justified him in sending for Miss Shewell to fulfill her promise. He made arrangements for her to come in the same vessel that conveyed his request to her, and also arranged that his father should accompany her on the voyage.  
Miss Shewell prepared for her departure, but her brother again confined her to her chamber. In this state of things, the late Bishop White, then about 18 years of age, Dr. Benjamin Franklin, 59 years of age, and Francis Hopkinson, 29 years of age, when the vessel was ready to sail, procured a rope ladder, went to the captain, and engaged him to sail as soon as they brought a lady on board, took old Mr. West to the ship, and went at midnight to Stephen Shewell's house, attached the ladder to a window in Miss Shewell's chamber, got her out and to the vessel, which sailed in a few minutes after she entered it. Mr. West was in waiting for Miss Shewell when she arrived in England, and they were soon married—Sept. 23, 1765. Neither of them ever returned to this country. Stephen Shewell never forgave his sister, and although she made many efforts to conciliate him, he refused all communication with her.  
**Toasting Coffee.**  
Like every thing else which is used and which will admit of it, coffee is extensively adulterated. A variety of substances are used, most of them and perhaps all, inert and harmless. Peas, beans, chicory and dandelion are chiefly used. Either of these substances may be taken *ad libitum* without producing any evil effect so far as poisonous properties are concerned. But there is the money part of the transaction which must be taken into the account, for it is squandering monstrously towards swindling to sell even harmless things under a false name. To follow the whole course of adulterations which are practiced, and be prepared to detect them would require much study. A popular treatise prepared by a skillful and scientific man for general circulation is a desideratum.  
But we are wandering from our subject, which was the testing of coffee. When the berry is mixed with chicory, the adulteration may be detected upon examination in the following manner. Place a teaspoonful of the coffee you suspect to be mixed, in a tumbler, and a like quantity of that you know to be pure, in another. Pour cold water upon the coffee and fill the tumblers; that which is pure will scarcely color the water, while that which is mixed with chicory will turn it to a deep red color.  
The adulteration with dandelion may be detected by examining the "grounds" or settlings in the coffee urn. They will be soft and clammy, the dandelion root softening and rendering the whole doughy. The extensive use that is made of coffee has prompted us to give these tests, as they are within the comprehension of every one and are easily made.  
**Hospitality in the House of God.**  
Every church, says an exchange paper, that would prosper, must show proper attention to strangers. It should be seen that they are promptly and courteously provided with seats, and made to feel that they have a cordial welcome there. Kind looks should greet them as they come, and follow them as they go. Should they come again, meet them with the same reception. And should they become constant worshippers there, let them be sought out and visited, not merely by the pastor, but by members of the church and society. Whether rich or poor, they should not be overlooked or neglected. They have claims as strangers irrespective of all outward distinction. Let us see that they have prompt attention.  
Let a man bring the matter home to himself. Suppose you are in a strange place. You go to the House of God on the Sabbath, but are treated as a stranger in the fullest sense of the word. You are not spoken to, you are not seated. We venture the assertion that when you go home, it will be to attend some other meeting, if there is one near, and if there is no other, you will be quite inclined to stay at home.

## Memoir of Rhode-Island.

**1723.**  
Archibald Fisher, Chirurgion of the Grey-Hound Man of War, deposed, that there were seven of the Grey-Hounds men wounded in the fight by the two pirate sloops companies in the engagement between the Grey-Hound Man of War and them, but none mortal.  
William Marsh, mariner, being duly sworn, deposed and said, that sometime last January, he was taken in the West Indies by Low's company in a schooner and sloop near Bonaire, and that he saw on board of the schooner Francis Laughton and William Read, and on board of the sloop he saw Charles Harris, Edward Lawson, Daniel Hyde, and John Fitz Gerald, all prisoners at the Bar, and that Gerald asked him whether he would seek his fortune with him.  
After the witnesses had been severally examined, the prisoners at the Bar were asked, whether they had anything to say in their own defence? whereof they answered and said, they were forced men on board of Low, and did nothing voluntarily, but that they were compelled.  
Advocate General.  
Your Honors, I doubt not have observed the weakness, and vanity of the defence which has been made by the prisoners at the Bar, and that the articles (containing indisputable flagrant acts of piracy) are supported against each of them: Their impudence and unfortunate mistake, in attacking his majesty's ship, tho' to us fortunate, and of great service to the neighboring governments: Their malicious and cruel assault upon Capt. Welland, not only in the spoiling of his goods, but what is much more, the cutting off his right ear, a crime of that nature and barbarity which can never be repaired: Their plea of constraint, or force, (in the mouth of every Pirate) can be of no avail to them, for if that could justify or excuse! No pirate would ever be convicted; nor even any profligate person in his own account offend against the moral law; if it were asked, it would be hard to answer; who offered the violence? It's apparent they forced, or persuaded one another, or rather the compulsion proceeded of their own corrupt and avaricious inclinations: but if there was the least semblance of truth; in the plea; it might come out in proof, that the prisoners or some of them did manifest their uneasiness and sorrow, to some of the persons whom they had surprised and robbed; but the contrary of that is plain from Mr. Marsh's evidence, that the prisoners were so far from a dislike, or regretting their number by inviting him to join with them, and seemed resolved to live and die by their calling, or for it, as their fate is like to be. And now seeing that the facts are as evident as proof by testimony can make 'em, I doubt not your Honors will declare the prisoners to be guilty.  
Then the prisoners were taken away from the bar, and the court was cleared, and in private.  
Then the court having duly and naturally weighed and considered the evidence against the prisoners, unanimously agreed and voted, that Charles Harris, Thomas Linnear, Daniel Hyde, Stephen Mundon, Abraham Lacy, Edward Lawson, John Tomkins, Francis Laughton, John Fitz Gerald, William Studfield, Owen Rice, and William Read were guilty of the piracy, robbery, and felonies exhibited against them at this court; and that John Wilson and Henry Barnes were not guilty.  
And then the court adjourned to two of the clock in the afternoon of said day.  
The court met and opened by proclamation, according to adjournment, and the aforesaid prisoners that were tried in the forenoon, were brought to the bar again.  
And the President acquainted them that the court by an unanimous voice had found the aforesaid Charles Harris, Thomas Linnear, Daniel Hyde, Stephen Mundon, Abraham Lacy, Edward Lawson, John Tomkins, Francis Laughton, John Fitz Gerald, William Studfield, Owen Rice and William Read guilty of piracy, robbery and felonies, according to the articles exhibited against them, and asked them, whether any of them had anything to say, why sentence of death should not pass upon them for their said offences.  
And the prisoners offering nothing material, the President pronounced sentence against them in the following words:  
You Charles Harris, Thomas Linnear, Daniel Hyde, Stephen Mundon, Abraham Lacy, Edward Lawson, John Tomkins, Francis Laughton, John Fitz Gerald, Wm. Studfield, Owen Rice and William Read, are to go from hence to the place from whence you came, and from thence to the place of execution, and there you and each of you are to be hanged by the neck until you are dead, and the Lord have mercy upon your souls.  
And the President then pronounced the said John Wilson and Henry Barnes, not guilty.  
Then the court ordered Thomas Hugget, Peter Cues, Thomas Jones, William Jones, Edward Eaton, John Brown, James

MARKED improvement in all that relates to the erection of dwelling houses, is one of the features of the age, and everything in the way of comfort, and even of luxury, is now deemed almost a necessity. Care is taken to have the exterior of a goodly form, and the interior must be well planned and better adapted to our wants than were the buildings of a previous generation to the requirements of life. From the lowly cottage to the famous town or country house, erected at a cost of a hundred thousand dollars, there is an effort at refinement in the construction, more or less marked, but still there, whether conceived in the original plan or caught from some building already completed; and the grounds which surround it are not overlooked, but share with the house the attention of the owner and occupant.

But there is one building—an exceedingly important one—which is still left uncared for, as repulsive, bare and desolate as it was in the most primitive days, and that is the Country School House—a building that can, and should, be made as attractive as any other place of resort, and would be if those who are interested in the matter would give the subject a little thought. As it is now, we crowd the children into a little building not larger than a corn crib, standing in an unfenced lot, unpainted, generally with ricketty windows and a rough door. The interior is no more attractive than the exterior; the windows are small, the ceiling low, and ventilation, except in summer, there is none. Here children are crowded into their seats, to breathe over and over again the same air, and to become feverish in the vain attempt to master a sum or a page of grammar. Under such circumstances school can have no attraction for them. With it they can associate nothing pleasant, and even the playground adjoining has nothing to raise their spirits or call forth one expression of satisfaction.

This is all wrong, and the whole thing could be obviated by the expenditure of a small additional sum when the building is first erected, or even at a later date. The building itself is usually small, as the number of scholars is very limited, so that the first outlay is not large, and there is, therefore, less excuse for parsimony. A fine form could be given to the exterior, and some little adornment would show that it was the subject of consideration. The interior could be made equally attractive, by hanging the walls with paper well selected, the forms should be neat and convenient, there should be a place for a few good prints, a clock, and, in fact, a place for everything and everything in its place. Then the subject of ventilation should be properly considered. This is now better understood than ever before, and there is no excuse for not having a current of pure air constantly passing through the house. And all this, as we have said, could be accomplished with little trouble and at a small expense, and when we consider how much it would add to the comfort of the teachers and those entrusted to them, and how much parents would gain by seeing their children in the health of their little ones, we wonder that the reformer was not commenced long ago.

M. PROCTOR, a native of Devon in Chancery, recently died in England, where he had resided for the greater part of his life. He was celebrated for his knowledge of foreign languages, and had been for many years a member of the Académie Française. He was also a member of the Académie des Sciences, and had been employed in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was a man of great talents, and his death is a great loss to the world.

EDITORIAL VISIT.—We received a visit, Monday evening, from our friends, Messrs. Proctor and his wife, who were on their way to the Continent. They were both well, and enjoyed their visit very much. They were accompanied by their children, who were also well.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York Tribune proposes to establish, if sufficient encouragement be offered, a great agricultural enterprise—a Levantine farm, of one hundred thousand acres, owned and managed on joint-stock principles, and worked by machinery on a vast scale. The fundamental idea which presides over the enterprise is the application of powerful machinery to agriculture, and its prosecution on a vast scale, so as to secure an immensely increased produce, and a system of scientific and methodical cultivation. To establish this great farm, he proposes to form a company with a capital of a million of dollars, divided into a thousand shares of a thousand dollars each—one share entitling a single person and two shares a family to membership.

In a dream, Punch imagined himself Mr. REXY, and several noted horses were brought in to be trained. In the following he turns a point well—

"Last night a Yankee horse called President Sly Boots. The moment he entered, he winked at Mr. Punch. The latter went gently up to him, and, being a master of the American language, addressed him as follows: 'I acknowledge you, sir, you ain't want of no teaching from me. Lookin', round after Cruiser, sir you say. Never mind about cruisers. That's all square, yes, Sir-ree. And you know it all-fired well, old boss. Now get out!' added Mr. Punch, with one of Mrs. Barney Williams' most brilliant squalls.

President Sly Boots set up such an uncommon hearty horse-laugh that Mr. Punch awoke.

THE N. Y. Tribune says the idea generally prevails that vessels arriving at Quarantine throw their baggage supposed to be infected, overboard. This is not the case. There is an iron shed provided, wherein these dangerous articles are deposited and then set on fire, thus effectually destroying all that may be considered dangerous in the shape of bedding and luggage. Daily, almost, the smoke may be seen issuing from this shed and spreading itself over the waters of the bay. It is a good mode of burning up the yellow fever.

We have, daily, fresh arrivals, and frequently the baggage wagons coming from the boats are loaded down with trunks, bundles, &c. The weather is delightfully pleasant, with an occasional shower—just to do away with the dust, the highways (and we might add the by-ways) of the hill are thronged morning and evening, every day a crowd is seen on the beach enjoying the surf, and in the evening brilliant scenes are witnessed at the hotels and the music of the Germanians is delightful.

The petition of BENJ. M. GREENE, reported injured in consequence of the bad road in the "disputed territory," asking the town of Bristol to allow him three thousand dollars as compensation, has been laid on the table. The Warren Telegraph thinks Mr. GREENE's claim a good one.

THEY are taking horse mackerel in large numbers to the eastward, and at the Vineyard we have the following returns:—

From May 25th to July 1st, 35 days, there were taken and sold fresh, to vessels from Connecticut, 137,743 lbs., valued at \$1,721,911, besides quite an amount, salted and used, making in all the sum of nearly \$1,800,000.

They are very abundant in our waters, but are rendered very wild and shy by the malpractice of seining them. Some days the catch at the second beach in this way is very large, and then for several days hardly any fish are taken—one day the market is overstocked, and then for several days there are not fish enough caught to supply the demand. If those engaged in the business relied more on the hook they would do better in the end, and consumers would be supplied with an abundance of this excellent fish. Fish of all kind are scarce, and fishing parties have to be contented with a few scup, with now and then a fish of a "larger growth." The good old times, in the way of fishing, we fear, will never return.

Here we are, the season not yet at its height and no fish. Yesterday morning we visited the two fish markets on the Long Wharf: in one the hands were idle, for want of fish to sell; in the other the few remaining fish, we were informed, were all engaged—and this is just the state of things we predicted some years ago. It is not a pleasing story, but it is true—Newport, once so famed for its fish, has not now enough to supply its own table.

FIGURES do not lie, and here we have a table, prepared by the New York Times, which show the rapid strides the Government has made in the art of spending money. At the rate we are going on, we shall soon have a very pretty national debt, as a sort of sheet anchor to tie us down and check somewhat a progress in other things. The following table exhibits the annual expenditures during the last ten years, including the administrations of TAYLOR, FILLMORE, PIERCE and BUCHANAN:—

1849—General Taylor,	\$46,708,067 82
1850—Fillmore,	42,408,922 11
1851—Fillmore,	40,504,422 12
1852—Fillmore,	36,552,080 37
1853—Pierce,	43,544,292 82
1854—Pierce,	51,018,240 60
1855—Pierce,	36,365,303 00
1856—Pierce,	69,172,401 64
1857—Buchanan,	84,878,828 81
1858—Buchanan,	81,000,000 00

The New York Express has collected some facts connected with the strawberry trade of that city, which go to show that the annual sales (usually crowded into the space of three weeks) amount to nearly six and a half million baskets, disposed of by the commission merchants (to which must be added at least one-third more sold directly from wagons to retailers and city consumers) at an average price of three cents per basket.

We learn that efforts are to be made by a gentleman of this city to raise strawberries on a large scale, that this market may be properly furnished with the best at a rate not exceeding twelve and a half cents per quart. We wish him entire success.

THE promise of a fine harvest is so great that prices have fallen materially, and all articles of produce will probably be sold low the coming autumn. Flour is coming down in the face of an immense crop of wheat, and the cereals generally will turn out well. The great difficulty the West is experiencing now is, that of raising sufficient money to harvest and bring to market the crops already raised, and the East is applied to for the "ready," on the best security. Money is plenty but it is not easily obtained, owing to a want of confidence. But time will smooth the way and take off the rough edges that are now so troublesome.

GREY BRITAIN is horrified at the thought of Slavery as it exists in the American Continent, and yet she looks with indifference on the brutal treatment of the Basutos of South Africa by the Cape Colonists, and the Cape Argus, after detailing some of the outrages committed on the natives by the whites, says:—

The Governor seems to have committed himself to the policy indicated above, and is supposed to regard, if not with satisfaction, at least with indifference, the deeds of spoliation and murder now taking place just beyond our borders.

SINGULAR PHENOMENON.—There is a little stream which empties into the Shasta Valley, about twenty miles east of the great butte, which possesses the singular property of interesting everything which falls into it with a complete coat of stone. Flowers, leaves, grass, pine buds, and things of that description will become completely encased in the course of a week or so, retaining in the process their natural form. During the winter of 1854 we saw this singular creek, and procured some fine specimens from it.—*Placerville (Cal.) Argus.*

There are several streams of this description in Italy.

The verdict of the coroner's jury in the case of the Erie Railroad accident is to the effect that no one is to blame for the reckless loss of life, which was anticipated at the start, though the evidence went to show that the train was travelling at an extraordinary rate of speed.

The main building of the Fall River Linn Mill has been raised, for the purpose of affording more space, as this part of the building will henceforth be devoted to spinning cotton. The manufacture of linen, says the *Monitor*, is still going on in the other buildings.

THE Kilmarnock Post & Reporter, says:—"We have just seen a plate of butter containing sixteen pounds three ounces of the pure yellow rolls, being the produce of one week of an Ayrshire cow, the property of Mr. JOHN HOWIE, Towardland, near Irvine."

A CORRESPONDENT of the Massachusetts Ploughman says he has a pair of steers, grade Durham, two years old, weighing 2,600 lbs.—And another correspondent has a pair of steer calves whose weight at twelve weeks old was eight hundred pounds.

The great overflow of the low lands in the West has resulted in much sickness, and an epidemic disease among the boys is carrying them off by scores. The effluvia that arises from the bottoms is very unhealthy.

A NEW USE for gutta serena has been discovered—that of making artificial horns to be stuck on the head of cattle offered for sale. The practice originated on the "other side," and is remarkable taking.

SEVERE HEAT—ninety-seven degrees in the shade—on the 11th, was followed by a terrible storm and hailstones, larger than a hen's egg, fell, doing considerable damage.

The late arrival from England gives us news of fresh triumphs in India, after hard fought battles. The Queen has paid a visit to the Levianth.

NO REGATTA.—The New York Herald states the New York Yacht Club have resolved to dispense with their intended regatta in August at New Bedford.

A NEW BRIDGE over Niagara River is contemplated—a tubular—of which surveys have already been made.

THE Boston Atlas says FANNY FERN points for a reform in female dress.

#### OUR BOOK TABLE.

*Blackwood's Magazine*, for June, is received from Leonard Scott & Co. Its opening paper is on the Mutiny in India, followed by a continuation of Bulwer's Novel of "What will it do with it." There are also several other papers. It is generally known to the reading public that the American publishers of Blackwood and the English Reviews, pay to the English publishers annually the sum of £10,000 for the right of publishing their works in America. It is a simple act of justice, and it is therefore due to them that they should have the benefit to be derived from these works in America. It is otherwise, however, and the "cream," as it is called, of our country, which appears in our periodicals, is sent to the detriment and loss of Messrs. Scott & Co. This should be borne in mind by the reader, and it should also be remembered that four Reviews and Blackwood can be obtained for the moderate sum of ten dollars.—*Hammatt agent.*

*Godey's Lady's Book*, for August. The leading illustration, Summer, is of more than usual merit, and the fashion plates are remarkably full and well executed. In other matters it is up with the times, and with the reader we leave it.

*Atlantic Monthly*, for August—full, fresh and vigorous—is before us. The reader knows how highly we appreciate it, and we commend it to his attention. The author is there, and the works of many other popular writers invite us to spend our leisure hours with it. It is a most pleasant and useful volume, and we commend it to the attention of all our readers.

*Boswell's Magazine and Picture's Monthly*, for July, has a continuation of the illustrated Life of Washington, and another illustrated paper—the City of the Great King, also a number of illustrated articles of less importance—sketches, tales, poetry, &c.

*Sergeant's School Feller*, for July, is published, and its pages, handsomely illustrated, contain a great deal of information for the little ones. The editor is well qualified for his post and his Magazine is always highly spoken of.

*Peter's Magazine*, for August, is at hand, with its plain and colored plates, fashion, amusing and instructive articles, receipts, &c. &c. For sale by the Trade.

*Household Words*—The American edition for August is out, and the opening article is on Earthquake experiences, followed by other papers, such as Dickens' well known how to select or prepare his readers.

*The Happy Home*, for July, was duly received. Its pages are made up of articles that could be read in every family with profit.

We have only room this week to announce the receipt of a History of East Boston, by Geo. W. H. Sumner, of Boston, of which we shall have something to say next week, for it is worthy of the highest commendation.

#### (SPECIAL MEETING.)

#### City Council.

Newport, July 21, 1858.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—Present, His Honor the Mayor, and Ald. Stevens, Dennis, Hopkins, Freeman and Cranston.

Report of committee on repairing streets. Received and ordered on file.

Resolved, That the Street Commissioner be and is hereby directed to make all necessary temporary repairs on Market street, at a cost of Forty dollars, also to make all necessary temporary repairs on Broad street, including the cross walk already ordered by the City Council, at a cost of Two hundred dollars, also the South part of Thayer street, at a cost of Twenty five hundred dollars, the curbing and sidewalk for, to be Ten hundred and fifty dollars, and the Mill street from Thayer to Spring streets to be thoroughly repaired at a cost of Six hundred and fifty dollars, the curbing and sidewalk for, to be Three hundred and seventy five dollars, also Prospect Hill street to be repaired, at a cost of One hundred and seventy five dollars, the curbing and sidewalk for, to be Four hundred and fifty dollars, and the Mill street from Thayer to Spring streets to be thoroughly repaired at a cost of Six hundred and fifty dollars, the curbing and sidewalk for, to be Three hundred and seventy five 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